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December 20, 2006

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**CHIROPRACTORS CHARGED IN HEALTH CARE FRAUD
SCHEME**

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that WEI CHEN YANG, 44, and HORNG SHAO, 40, Carmel, Indiana, were charged in separate Informations with health care fraud, following an investigation by the Department of Health and Human Services Inspector General and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The Informations allege that YANG and SHAO ran the Yang Health Center in Carmel, Indiana, and primarily provided acupuncture services. Acupuncture is the technique of inserting thin needles through the skin at specific points on the body to control pain and for other purposes. Few health care insurers cover acupuncture treatments. The Informations further allege that YANG and SHAO from January 2003 through January 2006 provided acupuncture

services, but fraudulently billed health care benefit programs (insurers), such as Medicare, and private insurers, such as Anthem and United Health Care, approximately \$187,000 for the acupuncture services as chiropractic services that were covered by the insurers when they knew that acupuncture services were not covered or paid for by the insurers.

According to Assistant United States Attorneys Winfield D. Ong and Shelese Woods, who are prosecuting the case for the government, YANG and SHAO face a maximum possible prison sentence of 10 years and a maximum possible fine of \$250,000. An initial hearing will be scheduled before a U.S. Magistrate Judge in Indianapolis.

The Informations are an allegation only, and the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at trial or by guilty plea.

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